

## ASSISTANCE TO AND SALVAGE OF VESSELS

*Treaty signed at México June 13, 1935*

*Senate advice and consent to ratification August 24, 1935*

*Ratified by the President of the United States August 29, 1935*

*Ratified by Mexico January 14, 1936*

*Ratifications exchanged at Washington March 7, 1936*

*Entered into force March 7, 1936*

*Proclaimed by the President of the United States March 10, 1936*

49 Stat. 3359; Treaty Series 905

### TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES FOR THE SENDING OF VESSELS FOR PURPOSES OF ASSISTANCE AND SALVAGE

The United States of America and the United Mexican States, being desirous, for humanitarian reasons, to facilitate the assistance and salvage of vessels in danger or shipwrecked on the coasts or within the territorial waters of the other country, have for that purpose resolved to conclude a treaty, and to that end have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The President of the United States of America, R. Henry Norweb, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the United States of America to Mexico; and

The President of the United Mexican States, Emilio Portes Gil, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

Who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed to the following articles:

#### ARTICLE I

The High Contracting Parties agree that vessels and rescue apparatus, public or private, of either country, may aid or assist vessels of their own nationality, including the passengers and crews thereof, which may be disabled or in distress on the shores or within the territorial waters of the other country within a radius of seven hundred and twenty nautical miles of the intersection of the International Boundary Line and the coast of the Pacific Ocean, or within a radius of two hundred nautical miles of the intersection of the International Boundary Line and the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

## ARTICLE II

The Commanding Officer, master, or owner of a vessel or rescue apparatus of either country, entering or intending to enter the territory or territorial waters of the other, in order to assist a distressed vessel, shall, at the earliest practicable moment, send notice of such action or intention to the competent authorities of the port of entry of that other country nearest the scene of distress. This notice may be sent by radio or telegraphic dispatch or by any other expeditious method of communication. Such vessel or apparatus may freely proceed to, and assist, the distressed vessel unless advised by such competent authorities that adequate assistance is available, or that, for any other reason, such assistance is not considered necessary.

## ARTICLE III

The Commanding Officer, master, or owner of a vessel or apparatus which enters the territory or territorial waters of a country to render assistance to a distressed vessel under the authority of this treaty shall notify the competent authorities of such country upon departure from such territory or territorial waters; and private vessels, so entering, as well as private distressed vessels and the cargo, equipment, stores, crew and passengers thereof, shall be subject to the provisions of the laws in force in the country in whose territorial waters such assistance is rendered.

As used in this treaty, the word "assistance" means any act necessary or desirable to prevent the injury, arising from a marine peril, of persons or property, and the word "vessel" includes aircraft, as well as every kind of conveyance used or capable of being used for transportation on water.

## ARTICLE IV

This Treaty shall remain in force for one year, and thereafter until terminated with three months notice by one of the High Contracting Parties.

## ARTICLE V

The High Contracting Parties shall ratify this Treaty in conformity with their respective constitutional provisions. The exchange of ratifications shall take place in the city of Washington, D.C., as soon as possible, and the Treaty shall be in force from the time of the exchange of these ratifications.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed this Treaty and have hereunto affixed their seals.

Done in duplicate in the English and Spanish languages in the city of Mexico, the thirteenth of the month of June in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirty-five.

R. HENRY NORWEB [SEAL]

EMILIO PORTES GIL [SEAL]